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### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: Verizon-7

Applicants: Craig REDING et al.

Serial No.: 09/828,679

Filing date: April 6, 2001

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR OBTAINING AND DISTRIBUTING VOICE MAIL INFORMATION

Examiner: GERALD GAUTHIER

Group Art Unit: 2645

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

#### **Interview Summary**

In accordance with Applicant's duty to provide a detailed summary of telephone interviews, applicants are submitting this Interview Summary which further documents the interview discussed in the February 27, 2004 Examiner interview summary (Paper No. 12).

This Interview Summary is being submitted following a Jan. 5 and Jan. 12, 2004 telephone interview in which Applicants' Representative Michael P. Straub (Reg. No. 36,941) requested reconsideration of the Examiner's decision not to enter the amendment submitted on November 19, 2003 in response to the final office action. During the Jan. 12, 2004 telephone interview the Examiner indicated that he would enter the amendment previously submitted on November 19, 2003 and issue a new office action.

#### II. Interview Summary

This interview summary is presented in the format suggested by the Patent Office.

- 1. Application Number: 09/828,679
- 2. Name of Applicant: Craig REDING et al.
- 3. Name of Examiner: GERALD GAUTHIER
- 4. Date of Interviews: January 5 and 12, 2003
- 5. Type of Interview: Telephonic
- 6. Name of Participants:

Examiner: GERALD GAUTHIER; Applicants' Rep: Michael P. Straub

- 7. Exhibit(s) Shown: None
- 8. Claims discussed: Claims 19 and 30
- 9. Prior Art Discussed:

None

10. Proposed Amendments discussed:

Entry of the amendment previously submitted on Nov. 19, 2003 was discussed.

### 11. Discussion of General Thrust of the Principal Arguments

During the Jan 5 and 12 telephone interviews, Applicant's representative, Michael P. Straub requested that the Examiner withdraw the finality of the previous office action and enter the amendment or indicate the allowability of claims 19-25 and 30-33. Applicants representative noted that the Examiner agreed in the previous telephone interview that the prior art rejections of independent claims 19 and 30 had been overcome based on Applicant's arguments without any need for amending these claims. Claim 19 was being amended to remove an extra period and claim 30 was amended to address a 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection raised by the Examiner. It was argued that Applicants had a right to amend claim 30 since it was in

response to an indefinites rejection raised by the Examiner in the final office action and that they could decline to make the amendment to claim 19 while still overcoming all the outstanding rejections. Applicant's representative also pointed out that Applicant could, as a matter of right, cancel the other claims leaving only claims 19-25 and 30-33 under consideration but that such an approach to force entry of the amendment would not be efficient in the long run unless the Examiner was ready to allow the claims.

Applicant's representative indicated that he was willing to cancel all the claims but for claims 19-25 and 30-33 if the Examiner was ready to allow those claims.

Applicant's representative also pointed out that if the Examiner issued a new non-final office action rather than allow the claims, assuming the Examiner required cancellation of claims to get the amendment entered, Applicant intended to add back any claims which they were forced to cancel to obtain entry of the amendment. Applicants' representative noted that an additional non-final office action followed by the re-introduction of claims which are currently in the application would, most likely, result in the need for yet another office action and that such prolonged prosecution would not be the most efficient way to proceed.

The Examiner, during the Jan. 5 interview indicated that he would try to do what additional searching he felt was required to make a decision with regard to claims 19 and 30 (and the claims which depended there from) and get back to Applicants' representative with a decision as to whether he would allow those claims in which case Applicants representative agreed to cancel the other claims.

On Jan. 12, 2003, Applicants' representative called the Examiner and reminded him of Applicants' position (e.g., willingness to cancel claims if it would place the application in condition for allowance or, alternatively, that the Examiner should enter the amendment) and that they were waiting for his decision with regard

to the allowably of claims 19 and 30. The Examiner indicated that he did not get to do the searching but agreed to enter the previously submitted amendment.

Applicants' representative thanked the Examiner for this reasonable outcome and for his time.

Respectfully submitted,

May 10, 2004

Joel W.M., Attorney Reg. No. 25,648 Tel.: (972) 718-4800

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Christian Andersen	Date

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Number of Pages Including Cover: 7
MESSAGE: FORMAL SUBMISSION OF:  1.) Transmittal;  2.) Fee Transmittal; and  3.) Interview Summary
Attorney Docket No.: Verizon-7APP Applicants: Craig L. REDING et al. Serial No.: 09/828,679 Filing Date: April 6, 2001 Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR OBTAINING AND DISTRIBUTING VOICE MAIL INFORMATION Group Art Unit: 2645 Examiner: Gerald Gauthier
Assistant Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
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			Application Number	09/828,679			
TRANSMITTAL		Filing Date	April 6, 2001				
FORM		First Named Inventor	Craig L. REDING				
(to be used for	all correspondence aft	er initiel filing)	Group Art Unit	2645			
		Examiner Name	Gerald Gauthier				
Total Number of Pages in This Submission			Attorney Docket Numbe	Verizon-7APP (01-1501)			
		ENCL	OSURES (check	all that apply)			
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	SIGNATU	RE OF APPLIC	ANT, ATTORNEY, OR A	GENT			
Firm or Individual name	Joel Wall (Re	g. No. 25,648	3)				
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FEE TRANSMITTAL			Complete if Known							
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Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.			First	First Named Inventor			Craig L. REDING			
Applicant stain			Exan	Examiner Name (			Gerald Gauthier			
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	Fee Fee Description Fee \$)	Paid 126	4 1,480	2254	740	Extensi	on for reply within fourth month			
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			Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 25,648 Telephone (972) 718-4800			4800				
Signature	Joel Wall		- THE STATE OF THE	Anni -			Date May 10,	2004		

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